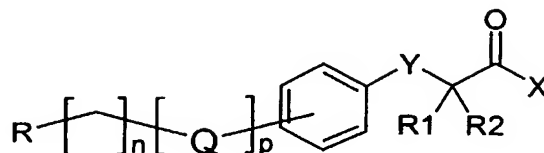


## CLAIMS

## 1. Use of formula compounds (I):



(I)

in which:

$R$  is  $-H$ ; aryl or heteroaryl, mono, bicyclic or tricyclic, possibly substituted with one or more halogen groups, nitro, hydroxy, alkyl and alkoxy, possibly substituted with one or more halogen groups;

$n$  is 0-3;

$p$  is 0-1;

$X$  is  $-OH$ ,  $-O$ -alkyl  $C_1$ - $C_4$ ;

$R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which may be the same or different, are selected from:  $-H$ ; alkyl  $C_1$ - $C_5$ ,  $-COX$ ;

$Q$  is selected from:  $NH$ ,  $O$ ,  $S$ ,  $-NHC(O)O-$ ,  $NHC(O)NH-$ ,  $-NHC(O)S-$ ,  $-OC(O)NH-$ ,  $-NHC(S)O-$ ,  $-NHC(S)NH-$ ,  $-C(O)NH-$ ; and  $Y$  is  $O$ ,  $S$ ;

and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, racemic mixtures, single enantiomers, stereoisomers or geometric isomers, and tautomers, for the preparation of a medicine for the prophylaxis and treatment of hyperlipidaemia and hyperglycaemia.

- 5    **2.** Use according to claim 1, in which R is an aryl, possibly substituted with one or more halogen atoms, alkyl, alkoxy or haloalkyl, preferably methyl, methoxy or trifluoromethyl, nitro, mono- or di-alkylamine, preferably p is 1, n is 0, 1 or 2, and Q is oxygen.
- 10   **3.** Use according to claim 1, in which R is a heteroaryl, preferably containing nitrogen as heteroatom, e.g. indole and carbazole, bound to the rest of the molecule via all the positions allowed; particularly preferred are the 1-indolyl and 1-carbazolyl groups, and preferably p is 1, n is 0, 1 or 2, and Q is oxygen.
- 15   **4.** Use according to claim 1, in which the compound is selected from the group consisting of:
  - i.    methyl    2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2195);
  - ii.    2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl-  
20    propanoic acid (ST2518);
  - iii.    methyl    2-[4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST1929);
  - iv.    methyl 2-[3-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2534);

- v. methyl 2-[4-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2531);
- vi. methyl 2-[3-(2-(carbazol-9-yl)ethoxy)phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2365);
- 5 vii. methyl 2-[4-(2-(carbazol-9-yl)ethoxy)phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2387);
- viii. methyl 2-[4-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST1983);
- ix. methyl 2-[3-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2394);
- 10 x. methyl 2-[3-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2167);
- xi. methyl 2-[4-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2011).
- 15 xii. 2-[4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2505);
- xiii. 2-[3-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2653);
- xiv. 2-[4-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2652);
- 20 xv. 2-[3-(2-(carbazol-9-yl)ethoxy)phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2618);
- xvi. 2-[4-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl propanoic acid (ST2622):

xvii. 2-[3-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl propanoic acid (ST2651);

xviii. 2-[3-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2609);

xix. 2-[4-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2036);

xx. methyl 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-methoxy)indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2577);

xxi. methyl 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-benziloxy)indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2562);

xxii. methyl 2-[3-[5-(4-nitrophenyl)furfuryloxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2501);

xxiii. 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-methoxy)indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutiric acid (ST2733);

xxiv. 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-benzyloxy)indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2740);

xxv. 2-methyl-2-[3-[5-(4-nitrophenyl)furfuryloxy]phenylthio]propanoic acid (ST2753).

5. Use according to claim 1, in which the compound is methyl 2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2195).

6. Use according to claim 1, in which the compound is 2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2518).

7. Use according to claim 1, for the prophylaxis and treatment of diabetes, particularly type 2 diabetes; of the microvascular

complications of diabetes, such as diabetic retinopathy, diabetic neuropathy and diabetic nephropathy; of the macrovascular complications of diabetes, such as atherosclerosis, peripheral vasculopathy, myocardial infarction and stroke.

- 5    **8.** Use according to claim 1 for the prophylaxis and treatment of syndrome X, polycystic ovary syndrome, obesity, and the various forms of insulin resistance.
9. Use according to claim 1, for the prophylaxis and treatment of fatty liver, particularly NAFLD (non-alcoholic fatty liver disease)
- 10    and NASH (non-alcoholic steatohepatitis).
- 10.** Use according to claim 1, for the prevention and treatment of hyperlipidaemia, hypercholesterolaemia, hypertension, for the primary and secondary prevention of coronary heart disease (CHD), and for increasing HDL-cholesterol levels.
- 15    **11.** Use according to claim 1, in which the medicine is in the form of tablets, soft or rigid capsules, powders, solutions, suspensions, syrups, solid forms for extempore liquid preparations, emulsions, liposomal formulations, forms with controlled release of the active ingredient, coated tablets coated with
- 20    suitable layers, microencapsulated powders, complexes with cyclodextrins, depot forms, e.g. subcutaneous ones, such as depot injections or implants.
- 12.** Use according to claim 1, in which the medicine can be administered orally or parenterally.

13. Use according to claim 1, in which the formula (I) compound is present at a dose ranging from 0.01 to 400 mg.
14. Use according to claim 1 in which the formula (I) compound is present at a dose ranging from 0.1 to 200 mg.
- 5 15. Pharmaceutical composition containing as its active ingredient at least one formula (I) compound in a mixture with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles and/or ingredients.